

FIRMWARE SECURITY KEY UPGRADE ALGORITHM

Abstract of the Disclosure

5 A portion of a firmware program may be automatically upgraded during power on of a processor-based system. A firmware upgrade file signed by a private key is authenticated using a public key accessible to the firmware program. The authentication and upgrade is performed automatically. Interrupted upgrades are anticipated and resolved by the firmware program. The public key is duplicated and is itself upgradable, in case the private key changes. The firmware program may be locked to prevent both viewing and unauthorized upgrades of the public keys or other parts of the firmware program.